



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

42nd Benefit Art Auction Exhibition

January 3-29, 2014

First Friday: January 3, 2014, 5-9 PM

Gallery Talk: January 3, Edgar Smith, 7 PM

42nd Benefit Art Auction: February 1, 5 PM, UC Ballroom

Missoula, MT / December 12, 2013 / Missoula Art Museum (MAM) / MAM's 42nd Benefit Art Auction and exhibition features 100 exemplary artists from the Missoula area and beyond in the silent and live auctions. New this year, the art works will be divided equally between the live and silent auctions. The silent auction will be expanded to incorporate a wider variety of work and diversity in price range to increase bidding opportunities for all budgets. The live auction is smaller than in past years to create more competition and generate exciting bidding. Art works vary in media, subject matter, and style and represent a unique tableau of contemporary art in the region. We are thrilled to be returning to the University Center Ballroom at UM. The size and scale of the ballroom allows us to comfortably accommodate over 400 of our closest, contemporary art-loving friends.

This year's theme, *Artists in the Spotlight*, highlights the important role artists play in our community and in our lives. After all, MAM wouldn't be able to do all we do without the work and inspiration presented by artists. This is why we are highlighting art and artists in all aspects of the auction offerings. Raffle packages and special items offered in the live auction include unique art-inspired experiences such as a day float with Zoo Town Surfers in the Alberton Gorge with drawing instructions by auction artist Stephanie Frostad, or an evening of dinner and discussion with UM Art Historian Rafael Chacón. Check missoulaartmuseum.org for more information on all of the offerings.

The *42nd Benefit Art Auction Exhibition*, featured in the Carnegie Galleries, opens with an artist's reception Friday, January 3 from 5-9 PM and will remain on display until January 29. Bidding on the silent auction begins in the gallery at the opening price, and will continue through the run of the exhibition. Highest bids will be brought to the event where bidding will resume. Winning bidders do not need to be present.

MAM would like to thank our Presenting Sponsor US Bank and our Media Sponsors the Missoulian and Montana Radio Company.

Contact: For more information, please contact the Missoula Art Museum at 406.728.0447, visit the MAM website at www.missoulaartmuseum.org or contact Stephen Glueckert, Exhibitions Curator, stevegl@missoulaartmuseum.org, 406.728.0447 x226.

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About MAM: FREE EXPRESSION / FREE ADMISSION. The Missoula Art Museum strives to engage artists and audience in the creative exploration of contemporary art relevant to our community, state and region. Founded in 1975 and accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1987, MAM showcases diverse and thought-provoking contemporary artwork from local and international artists. Gallery Hours: Tuesday- Saturday, 10 AM - 5 PM, Sunday, 12-5 PM. Office hours: Mon-Fri, 9AM-5PM.